

principle of the three per cents of the United States; the effect of which, in the estimation of the committee, would not only enhance the public credit, and present an available resource in every case of emergent need or exigency, but interpose a strong recuperative power to restore the treasures of the state, which have been wasted in former years, and operate most beneficially upon her latent or unimproved resources, to nourish the essential circulation of the body politic.

In illustrating the proper merits of this provision, it may be stated that the three per cents of the United States are now worth considerably more than the limitation which is contemplated for funding the issues of the State's Bank; and in elucidating the case of the superior value of that denomination of stock, it may be alleged that they are preferred to other investments, by reason of the peculiarity of their foundation, which, in its nature, is *durable*, and in point of security, is *co-equal with the whole state*. As the fee in land is superior to any minor estate, so are permanent and fixed annuities more to be esteemed, than those of a temporary or uncertain character. In either case, the man of wealth adheres to the principle of *permanency*, as he understands that the invested capital may be reconverted into cash, from a permanent, in preference of a limited, or precarious, property; and this facility of transmutation, which, in effect, is the vital principle of redemption, is found in practice to be *equally available and beneficial*, as in times of depression, the means of the State's Bank might be employed to redeem the funded capital at the reduced rate of the market, while that capital might be increased in seasons of abundance, for the greater extension of the public convenience and benefit.

Persons ignorant of the construction and genius of our institutions, might apprehend that the stock of the state would be less secure, and consequently, of lesser estimation than the funded debt of the United States: but when justly viewed, that apprehension would be rejected as inadmissible and absurd; it would virtually be to imagine the creator inferior to the creature: as the federal government is, in truth, the mere creature of the several states, and cannot survive their political existence; and their relative superiority of credit was practically tested in the late war, as while the former was *unable to raise money on any terms*, the states, and especially our own state, could command *abundant means at common interest*, and were constrained to meet the expenditures of that war, for which the treasury